Typac amon shall

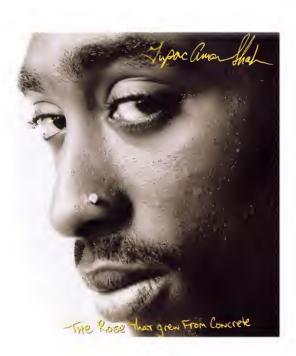
VOLUME I THE ROSE THAT GREW From Concrete THE Rose that grew From Concrete

Typac amar Shah



POCKET BOOKS

NEW YORK LONDON TORONTO SYDNEY



His talent was unbounded, a raw force that commanded attention and respect.

His death was tragic—a violent homage to the power of his voice.

His legacy is indomitable remaining vibrant and alive.

Here now, newly discovered, are Tupac's most honest and intimate thoughts conveyed through the pure art of poetry—a mirror into his enigmatic life and its many contradictions.

Written in his own hand at the age
of nineteen, they embrace his
spirit, his energy, and his ultimate
message of hope.

THE Rose that grew From Concrete

TUPAC SHAKUR recorded twelve landmark albums—nine of which went either platinum or gold. A consummate actor, he also appeared in six major motion pictures, including Poetic Justice, Juice, Gridlock'd, and Gang Related He was murdered at the age of twenty-five.



Tupac Shakur understood the power of words, whether through the rap genre that made him a musical icon or

the poetry he wrote in his private moments. Now, bringing together generations and cultures, The Rose That Grew from Concrete, Volume I, demonstrates the power of his words to inspire as poets, musical artists and actors interpret 25 of his poems from the posthumously published book The Rose That Grew From Concrete. Four years after his departure, Tupac continues to educate us.

VOLUMET

THIS ALBUM CONTAINS 25 TRACKS FEATURING SOME OF TODAY'S
HOTTLST HIP HOP ARTIST, POETS & ACTORS

SECTION AFTER SECURE

MOS DER, DEAU PREZ IL THE OUTLAWE FED KATE, SORIA SNOHEZ, NEKE GUVARNE, QUENCY JONES, BARRESINDS CEANEUMS, AFERE SHAKUR AND MANY MORE

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THE Rose That grew From Concrete

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Tupac aman Shah





POCKET BOOKS
NEW YORK LONDON TORONTO SYDNEY

An Original Publication of MTV BOOKS/POCKET BOOKS





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To Our Children

We must support our children in every way we can. We must allow our children freedom to express themselves creatively. We must praise our children and thank them for their gift of inspiration. We must motivate our children spiritually. We must challenge our children to a higher level of achievement. We must increase our children's self-confidence and improve their overall quality of life.

So we say to our children, draw, paint, write, act, sing, dance, think, express, and be free to dream always: Nzingha, Malik, Imani, Zahra, Keon, Lil Jamala, Mia, Kyira, Avani, Maya, Jasmine B., Ineke, Maja, Jacia, Jemil, Yusef, Rubiyah, Helen, Jada, Carl, Milan, Seleick, Ashaki, Valencia, Adaija, Lianna, Lil Imani, Alai, Kai, Alana, Remi, Rylie, Etan, Leigh, Shaquan, Talia, Devanee, Nikko, Demouria, Alana, Henry III, Marquessa, Emily, Audrey, Andrew, Alyssa, Mathew, Brooke, Alex, Arielle, Jonothan, Ashley, Kayla, Jax, Rafi, Chan'ial, and Coy.

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In the Event of My Demise

Acknowledgments

Tupac. I am grateful to God for the most precious gift of your life, your friendship, your love, and your indomitably honest, true spirit! Sekyiwa, Wonderful Woman! Sweet Child! Courageous Mother and Sister! Thank you for walking this earth with me! Nzingha and Malik, we continue to try to be better at preparing you for this world and this world for you! Create, love, and laugh! Gloria Jean and family, my sister who has been our rock for over fifty years-we are the only children of Rosa Belle and Walter Williams Jr. 1 know they are smiling because we remember our duty to family. Outlawz, Our Baltimore family. Our Lumberton family, Lisa Lee, My Team/Rick Fischbein, Donald David, Beth Fischbein, Jeff Glassman, Linda Amaya, Sandy Fox, Dina LaPolt, and crew. Jeff Joiner and family. Rick Barlowe and family. Henry Faison and family. Devanee, Talia, and Nikko. The entire Johnson family, especially Sandra for the food and the original eggroll recipe that fed Tupac for years. Belvie Rooks, Ebony Jo-Ann, Sonia Sanchez, Nikki Giovanni, Kathleen, Ignae, Angela, Lyle, and Elanor Gittens, Jasmine, Karolyn, Gigi, Charlene, Charis Henry, Akilah, Cynthia McKinney, and Tre mayne Maxie, Dana, Tom Whalley, Liza Joseph, The Shakur Family Foundation, Thomas McCreary, Carl, Staci, Felicia, and all of our friends who have picked our spirits up during this journey into the light. We love you all! Joey Arbagey (KMEL). Tracy Sherrod, Eduardo Braniff, Calaya Reid, Jack Horner.

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-Afeni Shakur

0 0 0

My children, Shaquan, Talia, Devance, Nikko, and all my other children, you are the reason I do this, my cup runneth over. Afeni Shakur, you gave your only son to not just me, but to the world. So many times when I have not had the strength to even get out of bed, it is Pac's spirit that gives me breath. It is you who gave his spirit breath, for this and for allowing me to continue his work. I cannot put into words my gratitude. Thank you, Tupac, I will continue to do your work with the portion of my soul that you didn't take with you.

-Leila Steinberg

Preface

Celebrate life
through the music
through the spoken word
through the splatter of
color on paper
or wood
or iron
or canvas
But celebrate your life
Celebrate your ability
to feel joy and
sadness
Celebrate your ability to feel!
Only then will we be free to
Feel!

I thank God and all my ancestors for the Artistic Tupac, for the Poetic Tupac. There was never a day when Tupac did not appreciate language. The sound and the rhythm of words did not intimidate him. He sought to interpret his world using all the visual and linguistic tools available to him. The battle

between the discipline of intellect and the ravings of the soul is a fascinating one.

These poems were written from 1989 to 1991, reflecting the heart and soul of my son. They represent the process of a young artist's journey to understand and accept a world of unthinkable contradictions. I always believed Tupac's work can and does speak for itself. I have nothing to add or defract—my responsibility is to do all I can to make sure he has been heard in venues and milieus that are appropriate to what he himself gave to his life and his work.

Tupac put these poems in the safekeeping of Leila Steinberg, who was Tupac's first professional manager and adult friend. We are indebted to Leila for her integrity in looking after the safety of Tupac's work. Her loyalty has allowed us the ability to offer this work in this medium.

Tupac had quite a few friends whose actions regarding his artistic integrity reflect a subconscious belief that he is still in the room. We thank all those of his peers, friends, and business associates who continue to act as though Tupac were still in the room. Thank you my beautiful and wonderful son—you're a perfect mirror of my soul!

When you're not here I measure the space You used to occupy. Large areas become vast and endless deserts of you not there.

-AFENI SUAKUR

Foreword: Tupac, C U in Heaven

I'm glad this collection of the poetry of Tupac Shakur is being published. Those of us who recognize not only genius but light knew early on that young Shakur was special. He lit up the screen in *Juice* and *Above the Rim*. His raps were tight and strong. We all said to ourselves. "Something good is coming."

I guess it will always be the case that when someone brings a new idea or, more accurately, a truthful idea there will be complaints. There will always be those people, especially those people who are wrong, who try to shut the truth and daring down. I remember when The Sugar Hill Gang started the "New Rap Revolution" and they were fun. Grandmothers in stupid movies could imitate their rap, and old men could return from Cocoon and break-dance. It was just so, well, cute to play off rap. Then along came Tupac. You don't see any senior take-offs on his art. You don't see Hume Cronyn and his friends hip hopping down the street to Holler If Ya Hear Me. No garden parties with Grandma bopping up to Something 2 Die 4. So they found a name, Gangsta Rap, to somehow distinguish it from, what? Polite, nice, highly compromised rap? They tried to isolate that beautiful boy who was trying to bring on the truth so that they could flood us with lies and excuses.

People will still stand up and say really stupid things like "I don't think profane language should be used" or "They are always cursing and stuff, and I think they can make their point without bad language." But I always think bad language is "school vouchers." "lower taxes on capital gains," "don't ask don't tell," and language like that, which, silently or not so silently, kills people who are different from what we want to think we are. But who, in truth, are not so different after all. Children have to be educated; the correct citizens to pay taxes are those who have money; people have a right to their own hearts, but mostly what I keep seeing is the emptiness of lives that have nothing better to do than judge and condemn. Tupae once said, "Only God can judge me." I say good for him. He had taken that step to understand that no matter what any of them say you have an obligation to the universe to follow your own muse.

Hike Tupac Shakur in the same way Hiked Prince when he was Prince. When he wrote music that was a bit edgy, a bit out there, a bit daring. Whatever turned that beautiful boy, the "rude boy," into a whiny symbol should not in five different hells. Tupac stayed fresh and strong and committed to himself and his people. Yet, as this collection shows, he was a sensitive soul. The poems for the lovers in this life, for his mother, for his child in heaven show a boy who touches our souls. This, too, is Tupac. Just as people want to make Malcolm X an integrationist, thereby changing the nature of his daring and his truth, people want us to overlook the sensitivity and love Tupac Shakur shows because, after all, if he loves, if he cries, if he cares, if he, in other words, is not a monster, then what have we done? What a great crime has been committed in the name of, what, the status quo? How awful and ugly of us.

One day, in the not too distant future, there will be a gathering in Atlanta much like the one in Memphis. You remember

Memphis and Graceland. The Postmaster General of the United States invited Elvis's family members to unveil the artists' concepts of Elvis. There was an 800 number for the young, pretty. slim Elvis and another 800 number for the fat, drugged-out Elvis. We the public were invited to phone in our choice, and that would be the stamp. When the Malcolm X stamp was chosen, there was no gathering at Betty Shabazz's home. No calling the girls, Malcolm and Betty's daughters, together with the Postmaster General. No artists' conception, inviting the public to choose between a smiling Malcolm and that frowny ugly thing they produced. No choice between a Malcolm-and-Betty stamp and a Malcolm-by-himself stamp. In fact, as usual, white people decided what Black people should want and did as they wished with the image of our hero. The Tupac Stamp must go public. We, the public, demand the right to make choices. I want an image of a thoughtful Tupac with the words: C U in Heaven. He deserves to be taken seriously and we must therefore mourn.

-Nikki Giovanni



Introduction

Tupac felt that through art we could incite a new revolution that incorporated the heart, mind, body, spirit, and soul. He wanted his art to instill honesty, integrity, and respect.

It was the spring of 1989 in Marin City, when a young man with fan-like eyelashes, overflowing charisma, and the most infectious laugh began to make his way into my life. I was sitting on the grass outside Bayside Elementary School reading Winnie Mandela's *Part of My Soul Went with Him*. A young man with big beautiful sparkling eyes came up behind me quoting lines aloud from the book. It fascinated me that he knew the lines by beart. When he introduced himself as Tupac, I realized that he was the Tupac that friends had spoken to me about. I was a writer and producer working in the music industry and he was an aspiring rapper looking for a manager. I did not have time to speak at length with him then because I had a class to teach, a multicultural educational program, "Young Imaginations." However, I was so impressed with him that I invited him to sit in on my class.

After class, Tupac began to share his ideas on how the arts could be included in school curriculums to help youth address some of the issues that they were experiencing in their lives. By combining art with education, Tupac felt we could begin to heal society's pain and confusion.

I later invited him to participate in a weekly writing circle I

had at my house. His first time there, he immediately took over and decided that we would write about what he wanted, not what I wanted. One of the first poems Tupac wrote with us-"The Rose That Grew from Concrete" tells you a great deal about him in just a few lines. Tupac was the rose that grew in spite of all obstacles. His life shows that a young man/boy could rise, shine, grow, and bloom beyond overbearing conditions to become one of America's most beloved men. He also had the grace to make it all look easy. Tupac's accomplishments, in twenty-five years, far surpass what most people do in three of his lifetimes. These poetry circles continued for a long time. We were all broke and struggling, but Tupac was the only one who had ever really tasted poverty; only he could take potatoes when there was no meat and make the best tacos you ever tasted; and only he could make a gourmet meal out of Top Ramen noodles. He was a genius who became the group's greatest inspiration. Within four weeks of our meeting, Tupacappointed me his manager.

It has been several years since Tupac has passed, and a day does not go by that I do not think of him. I have kept a collection of the many poems that he wrote during the time of our poetry circle. The following poems show a side of Tupac Amaru Shakur that popular culture has yet to realize existed—pensive, introspective, loving, and concerned about world affairs. There is no better way to get inside the mind and heart of an artist than to examine his artistic expressions. I hope these poems allow those who are fascinated by Tupac to see his sensitivity, insight, revolutionary mind, fears, passion, and sense of humor. Tupac's stature and recognition as a rapper is clear and unequivocal. However, his place as a literary artist/poet has yet to be recognized.

I hope these poems, which Tupac wrote from his heart, will encourage people to take the first steps necessary to see his literary importance, as well as have us acknowledge the life struggles of young black men. Written when Tupac was nineteen, this poetry is free from the restraints of the music industry and all monetary pressures. It is free of the anger that came from getting shot, betrayed, and thrown in jail for a crime I believe he never committed. It is Tupac before his fame.

For the past seven years, Tupac's writings have been one of my most powerful teaching tools. I have participated in programs in schools, youth facilities, and a number of prisons all over the country. My most exciting work began in 1997 when Arvand Elihu invited me to participate in History 98: The Poetry and History of Tupac Shakur. This was a class Arvand was developing at UC Berkeley. Students from all races and backgrounds participated, discussing such issues as single parenting and poverty. Students and universities throughout the country bave requested the teaching materials that Arvand compiled to initiate their own Tupac curriculum. Tupac was finally being recognized by academia.

In the summer of 1998, I assisted Afeni Shakur, Tupac's mother, in developing the first annual summer youth conference, "Life Goes On." We spent more than a weekend in Sparta, Georgia, using Tupac's lyrics to conduct workshops that resulted in bringing new life into the hearts and minds of those in attendance, Participants traveled from all over the nation to take advantage of the healing tool Tupac left us, his words. The following August. I was invited as a delegate to the International Women's Convention in Johannesburg, South Africa, to conduct a workshop with Enid Picket on the power of art in education. Once again the curriculum was based around

Tupac's writings, I have since been invited to the Netherlands and Costa Rica to conduct similar programming.

Now, Tupac's work, and especially these poems, are available to the public. I hope that they can attract the attention of those who have not given Tupac a fair chance—the same people who are quick to judge Tupac based on the media's sometimes negative portrayal. Tupac's poems can teach us about universal needs that textbooks rarely address. Poems such as "And 2morrow" and "Still I Wait for Dawn" speak of the need to survive and wait for a better day. They also teach us that humanity as a whole suffers if anyone starves. Unfortunately, it took his death to teach us that when one man dies we all bleed.

-Lehla Steinberg

THE Rose That grew From Concrete

THE Rose that grew From Concrete AutoBiographical Did u Hear about the rose that grew from a crack IN the concrete Proving Nature's Laws wrong it learned 2 walk without Having Feet Funny it seems But by Keeping its Dreams it learned 2 Breathe fresh air Long Live the rose that grew from Concrete when no one else even cared!

The Rose That Grew from Concrete Autobiographical

Did u hear about the rose that grew from a crack in the concrete
Proving nature's laws wrong it learned 2 walk without having feet.
Funny it seems but by keeping its dreams it learned 2 breathe fresh air
Long live the rose that grew from concrete when no one else even eared!

IN THE DEPTHS OF SOLITUDE DEDICATED 2 ME

exist in the Depths of Solifude pondering, my Tour CroaL Trying 2 field peace of Mind and Still preserve my Soul Constantly yearning 2 be accepted and from all receive respect Never Comprising but Sometimes Risky and that Is my only Regret How Can there Be to Solitude when there R. 2 inside of Me This Duo within me causes The perfect opportunity 2 years and live swice as fast as whose who accept simplicity

In the Depths of Solitude

Dedicated 2 Me

I exist in the depths of solitude pondering my true goal. Trying 2 find peace of mind and still preserve my soul CONSTANTLY yearning 2 be accepted and from all receive respect Never compromising but sometimes risky and that is my only regret A young heart with an old soul how can there be peace How can I be in the depths of solitude. when there R 2 inside of me This Duo within me causes the perfect opportunity 2 learn and live twice as fast as those who accept simplicity



Sometimes when I'm alone
I cry because I'm on My own
The Tears I cry R Bitter and warm
They flow with life but Take no form
I cry Because my Heart is Torn
and I find it difficult 2 comy on
if I had an ear 2 confide in
I would cry among my treasured friends
But who Do u know that stops that long
To help another carry on
the world moves fost and it would refler passubly
than 2 stop and c what makes u cry
It's painful and Sad and Sometimes I cry
It's painful and Sad and Sometimes I cry

Sometimes I Cry

I cry because I'm on my own
The tears I cry R bitter and warm
They flow with life but take no form
I cry because my heart is torn
and I find it difficult 2 carry on
If I had an car 2 confide in
I would cry among my treasured friends
But who do u know that stops that long
to help another carry on
The world moves fast and it would rather pass u by
than 2 stop and c what makes u cry
It's painful and sad and sometimes I cry
and no one cares about why.

Under The Skies Above After the miscarriage my child is our there somewhere under the skies Above Waiting auxiously U u and me 2. Bless it with our Love a part of me a part of u and a part of this Love we share will protect my wearn child Who lives dormant out there some where Sometimes in my Dreams I imagine what it would be like How could I properly guide him when even I don't know what's right Whether he is Born in wealth or Poverty There will be no deficiency in Lore I welcome this gift of life given from GOD under the skies above

Under the Skies Above

After the Miscarriage

My child is out there somewhere under the skies above waiting anxiously 4 u and me 2 bless it with our love. A part of me a part of u and a part of this love we share will protect my unborn child who lives dormant out there somewhere Sometimes in my dreams I imagine what it would be like How could I properly guide him when even I don't know what's right Whether he is born in wealth or poverty there will be no deficiency in love I welcome this gift of life given from GOD under the skies above

LIFE THROUGH MY EYES

Lefe through my Bloodshot eyes
would scare a square 2 death
poverty, murder, violence
and never a moment 2 rest
fun and games R few
But treasured like gold 2 me
euz I realize that I must return
2 my spot in poverty
But mack my words when I say
my heart will not exist
unless my destiny comes through
and puts and end 2 all of this

Life Through My Eyes

Life through my bloodshot eyes would scare a square 2 death poverty, murder, violence and never a moment 2 rest. Fun and games R few but treasured like gold 2 me cuz I realize that I must return 2 my spot in poverty. But mock my words when I say my heart will not exist unless my destiny comes through and puts an end 2 all of this

WHEN Ure Heart Turns Cold 2 KRISTEN & My other Friends who wonder

WHEN Your Heart Turns cold

IT Causes your soul 2 Freeze

ITSpreads Throughout your spirit

like a cuthless feeling disease

The walls that once were Down

Now Stand firm and tall

Safe From Hare / Love, pain / Joy

until u feel nothing at all

When we heart Turns cold

a Baby's cry means nothing

A Dead corpse is trivial

Mothers neglected children is Dally Lowliness Becomes your Course Freiend Death Seems like Tranquility

Sleeping is never pleasant
if u even sleep at all
u forget ideals and Turn off the reason,
2 make Sure the product gets sold

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW I Behave Just want til your hear Turns cold

When Ure Heart Turns Cold 2 Kristen & My Other Friends Who Wonder

When your heart turns cold it causes your soul 2 freeze It spreads throughout your spirit like a ruthless feeling disease The walls that once were down now stand firm and tall. Safe from hatc/love, pain/joy until u feel nothing at all When ure heart turns cold a baby's cry means nothing A dead corpse is trivial Mothers neglecting children is daily Loneliness becomes your routine friend Death seems like tranquility Sleeping is never pleasant if u even sleep at all u forget ideals and turn off the reason 2 make sure the product gets sold You don't understand how I behave Just wait till your heart turns Cold!

Please wake me when I'm Free I cannot bear copyingly where my culture I'm told holds no Significance I'll wither and die in ignorance BUT MY INNER EYE CAN C a race who reigned as Kings in another place The green of trees were Rich and full and every man spoke of Beautiful men and women together as equals War was gove because all was peaceful But now like a nightmane I woke z c that I live like a prisoner of Poverty Please wake me when I'm free I Cannot bear captivity
H I would rather be stricken blind FF I to Than 2 live without expression of mind

Untitled

Please wake me when I'm free I cannot bear captivity where my culture I'm told holds no significance I'll wither and die in ignorance But my inner eye can c a race who reigned as kings in another place the green of trees were rich and full and every man spoke of beautiful men and women together as equals War was gone because all was peaceful But now like a nightmare I wake 2 c. That I live like a prisoner of poverty Please wake me when I'm free I cannot bear captivity 4 I would rather be stricken blind than 2 live without expression of mind

THE ETERNAL LAMENT

From my mind 2 The Depths of my Soul I yearn 2 achieve all of my goals AND ALL of my Free Time will be spent On the 18 I miss I will Lament

I AM NOT A PerfectionIST

But still I seek Perfection

I am NOT A great Romantic

But yet I yearn 4 affection

ETERNALLY MY MIND WILL Produce ways 2 put my talents 2 use and when I'm done no matter where I'v been I'll yearn 2 Do It all again.

The Eternal Lament

From my mind 2 the depths of my soul I yearn 2 achieve all of my goals And all of my free time will be spent On the 1's I miss I will lament

I am not a perfectionist But still I seek perfection I am not a great romantic But yet I yearn 4 affection

Eternally my mind will produce ways 2 put my talents 2 use and when I'm done no matter where I've been I'll yearn 2 do it all again.

Only 4 the Righteous

I'm Down with Strictly Depe "So"
That's means I'm More than u handle "Hot" I'm hotter whan the wax from a canole "Him" That's Roc he's my microphone Companion _ Lyrics" Full of Knowledge Truth and understanding Hopbies" Rapping is my only recreation retire" u must be on some medication "Why" because I'm never lossen up my mic grip "Drugs" never I'm loving on the right tip "sex" only with my gicl because I love her "Bobies" impossible I always use a Rubber "VESTER" rarely cuz I'm keeping myself Busy. "Scratch" nah I leave the cutting up 2 Dize. "Dize?" yeh Thatsmy D.J. he's the greatest. " WORD" Noh he's paying me 2 Say this " The MIND" is something that I cultivate and Treasure "Thanks" Dour Nelcome and besides it was my Pleasure

Only 4 the Righteous

I'm Down with strictly Dope "So" That means I'm more than u can handle "Hot" I'm hotter than the wax from a candle "Him" that's Roc he's my microphone companion "Lyrics" full of knowledge truth and understanding "Hobbies" rapping is my only recreation "retire" u must be on some kind of medication. "why" because I'll never loosen up my mic grip "Drugs" never cuz I'm living on the right tip "sex" only with my girl because I love her "Babies" impossible I always use a rubber "Bored" rarely ouz I'm keeping myself busy "Scratch" nah I leave the cutting up 2 Dize "Dize?" yeh that's my D.J. he's the greatest "Word" nah he's paying me 2 say this "the mind" is something that I cultivate and treasure

"Thanks" you're welcome and besides it was my Pleasure

WHAT OF FAME?

everyone knows are FACE THE world Screams are NAME Never again R a ALONE

What of Fame?

everyone knows ure Face The world screams ure name Never again R u alone THE SHINING STAR WITHING DEDICATED 2 Marilyn Monroe

Secrets R. hidden within the clouds OF Darkness, And in this place No ONE Dares 2 Breathe IN Frak of Self expression It has been This way forever AND A Day until She come 2 Shine with a Spark of innocence and questions ONly 2 be answered with Dorkness. NOT JUST DOCKNESS but the Silent Kind There was no compassion for this thriving star only exploitations and confused Dealousy u San No hope and brought the end Never aknowledging the Star within

The Shining Star Within! Dedicated 2 Marilyn Monroe

Secrets R hidden within the clouds. of Darkness. And in this place no one Dares 2 Breathe in Fear of self-expression It has been this way forever and a day until she came 2 shine with a spark of innocence and questions only 2 be answered with Darkness Not just Darkness but the silent kind that steals your soul and kills your mind There was no compassion for this thriving star only exploitations and confused jealousy u saw no hope and brought the end Never acknowledging the star within

STARRY NIGHT

Dedicated in memory of

Vincent Van Grogh

a creative heart, obsessed with Satisfying
This dormant and uncaring Society

U have given them the sters at night
and u have given then Bountiful Bouquets of Sunflowers
But 4 4 There is only contempt
and though a pour yourself into that frome
and present it so proudly
This world could not accept your Maskrpieces
from the heart

So on that Storry Night

U gave 2 us and

U TOOK away from us

The one thing we never acknowledged

Your Life

Starry Night

Dedicated in Memory of Vincent van Gogh

a creative heart, obsessed with satisfying
This dormant and uncaring society
u have given them the stars at night
and u have given them Bountiful Bouquets of Sunflowers
But 4 u there is only contempt
and though u pour yourself into that frame
and present it so proudly
this world could not accept your masterpieces
from the heart

So on that starry night
u gave 2 us and
u took away from us
The one thing we never acknowledged
your life

TF I FAIL

If in my quest 2 achieve my goals

I stumble or crumble and lose my soul

Those that knew me would easily co-sign

There was never a life as hard as mine

no father - no money - no chance and guide

I only follow my voice inside

if it guides me wrong and I do not ovin

I'll learn from mistakes and try 2 achieve again

If I Fail

If in my quest 2 achieve my goals
I stumble or crumble and lose my soul
Those that knew me would easily co-sign
There was never a life as hard as mine
No father—no money—no chance and no guide
I only follow my voice inside
if it guides me wrong and I do not win
I'll learn from mistakes and try 2 achieve again.

WHAT IS IT THAT @ SEARCH 4

I KNOW NOT WHAT I SCARCH 4

BUT I KNOW I have yet 2 FIND IT,

BECAUSE IT IS INVITIBLE 2 THE
MY HEART MUST SEARCH 4 IT BLINDED.

AND IF BY CHANCE I FIND IT , WILL I KNOW MY MISSION IS MCHIEVED? CON ONE COME & CONCLUSIONS, Before The QUESTION IS CONCEIVED?

Just as No one knows what I les beyond the shore, I will never Find the Answer 2 what it is that I search 4.

What Is It That I Search 4

I know not what I search 4
But I know I have yet 2 find it,
Because it is invisible 2 the eye
My heart must search 4 it blinded.

And if by chance I find it.

Will I know my mission is achieved?

Can one come 2 conclusions,

Before the question is conceived?

Just as no one knows what lies beyond the shore. I will never find the answer 2 what it is that I search 4.

THE FEAT IN THE HEART of a Man Depicated 2 my HearT

against an attacker I will Boldly Take My Stand.
Because My heart will show Fear 4 No Man.
But 4 a Broken heart I run with fright
Scared 2 Be Blind in a Vulnerable night
I Believe This Fear is in every man
some will aknowledge it others will fail 2 understand
There is no fear in a shallow heart.
Because shallow hearts Don't fall apart
But feeling hearts that truly care
are frogile 2 the flow of air
are frogile 2 the flow of air
are fragile heart
I may receive great Joy or u may return it
ripped apart

The Fear in the Heart of a Man Dedicated 2 My Heart

against an attacker I will boldly take my stand
because my heart will show fear 4 no man
but 4 a broken heart I run with fright
scared 2 be blind in a vulnerable night
I believe this fear is in every man
some will acknowledge it others will fail 2 understand
there is no fear in a shallow heart
because shallow hearts don't fall apart
but feeling hearts that truly care
are fragile 2 the flow of air
and if I am 2 be true then I must give
my fragile heart
I may receive great joy or n may return it
ripped apart

GOD
WHEN I was Alone AND had Nothing I asked 4 a friend 2. help me bear the Dain No one came except God
when I needed a breath 2 rise from my sleep no one could help me except GOD
when All I saw was sadners and I needed Answers no one heard me except Crob
give my unconditional love 2 Look For No other name except
1 5 5 5 S

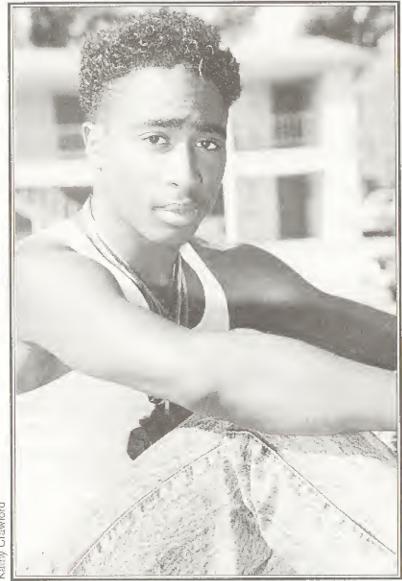
God

when I was alone and had nothing I asked 4 a friend 2 help me bear the pain no one came except . . . GOD

when I needed a breath 2 rise from my sleep no one could help me except GOD

when all I saw was sadness and I needed answers no one heard me except GOD

so when I am asked who I give my unconditional love 2 look for no other name except GOD!



Kathy Crawford

Nothing Can Come Between us

Nothing Can Come Between us

let's not talk of Money let us forget The WORLD I a moment let's sust revel in our eternal comradery IN MY Heart I KNOW there will never Be a pay that I Don't cemember The times we shared u were a briend when I was at my lowest and being a friend z. me was not easy nor fashionable Regardless of how popular I become u remain my unconditional friend Unconditional in its truest sense Did v think I would togget Did u 4 one moment Dream that I would ignorev it so Reman bee this from here 2 torever Mothing Can Come between us

Nothing Can Come Between Us 4 John

let's not talk of money let us forget the world 4 a moment let's just revel in our eternal comradery in my Heart I know there will never be a day that I don't remember the times we shared u were a friend when I was at my lowest and being a friend 2 me. was not easy or fashionable regardless of how popular I become u remain my unconditional friend unconditional in its truest sense did u think I would forget did u 4 one moment dream. that I would ignore u if so remember this from here 2 forever nothing can come between us

MY DEARCHT ONE 88

THERE R NO WOLDS 2 express How much truly care SO MANY TIMES " FONTASIZE OF FEELINGS WE CON SHARE MY HAS HE KNOWN HE LOY 4 Bring 2 me 15 IF CXOD KNEW WHAT & WONTED - AND MADE U A REality In Die 2 Hold u or 2 Kiss u is merely 2 chaus FACE MY STOMACH QUIVERS MY BODY SHIVETS CND MY .increases pace 2 give me & or LOTS OF GOLD W. prayed and watched The DISTANT STAR AND FINALLY 4 came 2 me!

My Dearest One!!

There R no words 2 express how much I truly care. So many times I fantasize of feelings we can share My heart has never known the Joy u bring 2 me As if GOD knew what I wanted and made u a reality I'd die 2 hold u or 2 kiss u or merely to see your face. my stomach quivers my body shivers and my heart increases pace 2 give me S or lots of gold would not be the same 2 mc I prayed and watched the distant stars and finally u came 2 me!

If THERE BE . PAIN ...

If There Be Pain,
All U need 2 Do
is call on me 2 Be with u
And Before u hang up the Phone
u will no longer be alone
Together we can never fall
Because our love will conquer all

There Be Pain,
Reach out 4 a helping hand
and I shall hold a whorever I am
Every Breath I Breathe will be into a
4 without a here my loy is through
my life was lived through telling rain
so call on me if there be pain

touthfully formers,

If There Be Pain . . .

If there be pain,
all u need 2 do
is call on me 2 be with u
And before u hang up the phone
u will no longer be alone
Together we can never fall
because our love will conquer all

If there be pain,

reach out 4 a helping hand and I shall hold u wherever I am Every breath I breathe will be into u 4 without u here my joy is through my life was lived through falling rain so call on me if there be pain

THINGS THAT MAKE HEARTS Break

pretty Smiles

Deceiving laughs

and people who bream with thier eyes open

Lonely Children

Unianswered Cries

and Souls who have given up hoping

the other thing that breaks Hearts

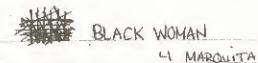
R. fairy rates that never come true

and Selfish people who lie 2 me

Selfish people Just like u

Things That Make Hearts Break

pretty smiles
deceiving laughs
and people who dream with their eyes open
lonely children
unanswered cries
and souls who have given up hoping
The other thing that breaks hearts
R fairy tales that never come true
and selfish people who lie 2 me
selfish people just like u



THE DAY I MET U I SOW STRENGTH AND I KNEW FROM that point ON that u were pure woman 2 me possessing a spirit that was strong

I want smiles 2 replace the Sorrow

That u me have encounteres in the past

and since it was stre the that attracted me 2 u

it will take strength 2 make it (est

my negative side will attempt 2 change u

But please Fight that a with your all

it will be your stregul that Keep us Both Standing
while others around us Tall

Black Woman

4 Marquita

The day I met u I saw strength and I knew from that point on that u were pure woman 2 me possessing a spirit that was strong

I want smiles 2 replace the sorrow that u have encountered in the past and since it was strength that attracted me 2 u it will take strength 2 make it last

My negative side will attempt 2 change u but please fight that with your all it will be your strength that keep us both standing while others around us fall

AND STILL I LOVE U

I don't have everything
as a natter of fact I don't have onything
except a Dream of a Better Day
and you 2 help me find my way
Being a Man I am Sure 2 make mistakes
But 2 Keep u I would do all it takes
and if it meant my love was really true
I'd gladly die and watch over u
I wish u knew how much I cared
u'd see my love is true By the life we'd Share
Even if u changed your mind and said our love was three
I'd want 2 die continuously ery and still I'd love u

And Still I Love U

I don't have everything
as a matter of fact I don't have anything
except a dream of a better day
and you 2 help me find my way
Being a man I am sure 2 make mistakes
but 2 keep u I would do all it takes
and if it meant my love was really true
I'd gladly die and watch over u
I wish u knew how much I cared
u'd see my love is true by the life we'd share
Even if u changed your mind and said our love was thru
I'd want 2 die continuously cry and still I'd love u

THE MUTUAL HEGETACHE?

INTRODUCED WITH INNOCENCE
who would have ever querses
That is were one I was
BREN Se desperately Searching 4
U Talk AS T De BUT yet a Don't
understand when I mumble
u c as I be but your vision is
Hurred by mainty
This is the bacrier that separates us
I connet cross yet
There is 2 much of me that
would frighten u so I live in
heartache because we cannot
fully explace this love and
what of your heart ache
Dees it feel as Shar? as mine
and a short to be a first to be a
I will never recover from this Mutual Mache
I will were crower from This Mutual Wache
للمعامل للمرابع والمعرور والمناور والمغتر المالي المناوعيان والمناو المناوي المناوا المالية والمناوي المناطبين

The Mutual Heartache?

Introduced with innocence who would have ever guessed that u were the one I had been so desperately searching 4 u talk as I do but yet u don't. understand when I mumble u c as I do but your vision is blurred by naivete This is the barrier that separates us I cannot cross yet There is 2 much of me that would frighten u so I live in heartache because we cannot. fully explore this love and what of your heartache Does it feel as sharp as mine No matter where I go or how long it takes I will never recover from this mutual heartache.

1 ST IMPRESSIONS

Just when thought I'd seen it all

Our parts crossed and met

and I knew From the First glance.

That u would be hard 2 yet

your eyes attracted me First

But you recked of Sultry confidence

I couldn't wait 2 Touch lips

and kiss with my Heart's intertions
when we did it was what I expected

and 4 that moment we erased the Tension

of the awkwardness of First Date Jithers

and the initial Blind Date First impressions

we kissed again and I felt athe passion

on this was CUPIDS Blessing

1st Impressions

4 Irone

Just when I thought I'd seen it all our paths crossed and met and I knew from the First glance that u would be hard 2 4get your eyes attracted me First but you recked of sultry confidence I couldn't wait 2 touch lips and kiss with my Heart's intentions when we did it was what I expected and 4 that moment we erased the tension of the awkwardness of First Date Jitters and the initial Blind Date First impressions we kissed again and I felt the passion and this was CUPID's blessing

A Love unspoken

WHAT OF A LOVE UNSPOKEN? is it weaker without a work? Does this Love deserve 2 exist without a title Because I Dore NOT share its name Does that make me cruel and cold 2. Deny the world of my salvation Because I chose z let it grow People TEND 2 choke That which they Do Not underestand why shouldn't I be werey and without this love from MAN What of a love unspoken No one ever Knows But this is a love that lasts and in secrecy it grows

5

A Love Unspoken

What of a love unspoken? Is it weaker without a name?
Does this love deserve 2 exist without a title
because I dare not share its name
Does that make me cruel and cold
2 deny the world of my salvation
because I chose 2 let it grow
People tend 2 choke
that which they do not understand
Why shouldn't I be weary
and withhold this love from MAN
What of a love unspoken
to one ever knows
But this is a love that lasts
and in secrecy it grows

FOREVER AND TODAY U. Say that u'll love me Forever But what about Today. As the Dusks Become Dawns and the years possion will u love with fine by if so let us rejoice and Bathe in constant Pleasure. if not spare my heart today and I Shall recover Before foreign And if my Doubts and? supset u, forgive my fragile heart I just wanted 2 Know if u'd love me forever. Before Today would START!

Forever and Today

U say that u'll love me forever but what about today As the dusks become dawns and the years pass on will u love me the same way

if so let us rejoice and bathe in constant pleasure if not spare my heart today and I shall recover before forever

And if my doubts and ?'s upset u, forgive my fragile heart ljust wanted 2 know if you'd love me forever before today would start!

WHEN I DO KISS U

I Haven't yet For reasons of your own
But soon I'm Sure you'll Tire from being alone
u haven't recovered from the pain of the past
So u show me affection behind the wall of glass.
But when I do finally Kiss u
u will realize at last my heart was true

When I Do Kiss U

I haven't yet for reasons of your own
But soon I'm sure you'll tire from being alone
u haven't recovered from the pain of the past
So u show me affection behind the wall of glass
But when I do finally kiss u
u will realize at last my heart was true

Carmencita of the Brown ! Devicated 2 Carmen

I wanted a more THAN I wanted me

I remember my last Thought at night was of a

and my First Thought in the morning was of a

It has been a long time since I've actually

sat and adored a but every once in awhile

your beautiful smile guides me through a day

I hear a R with another and a R expecting

I wish a good Luck He is lacky 2 be able

2 wake up 2 a each morning

C a in teasen

Carmencita of the Bronx! Dedicated 2 Carmen

I wanted u more than I wanted me
I remember my last thought at night was of u
and my first thought in the morning was of u
It has been a long time since I've actually
sat and adored u but every once in awhile
your beautiful smile guides me through a day
I hear u R with another and u R expecting
I wish u good luck he is lucky 2 be able
2 wake up 2 u each morning
c u in heaven!

EVERY WORD CUTS 2 The HEART convergations is ended Bey They START is this what a want? 15 This what I want? is this what MUST Be? - This IS TOUT A GAME This is A Love one should be played The other cherished I feel 2 Hearts Breaking ... is this what a want is this what I want is this what must be o

Untitled

Every word

cuts 2 the heart

conversations R ended

be4 they start

is this what u want?

is this what I want?

is this what

must be?

This is not a game

This is a love

one should be played

The other cherished

I feel 2 hearts breaking. . .

is this what u want? is this what I want? is this what must be? WHAT IT IS I feel WITHIN
I SEARCH of WORKS 2 assist
BUT I FIND NONE 2 Help one Begin
I guess Love is just complicated
Love

complicated.

I THOUght I quenched my Heart's Desire

I thought I quenched my Burning Fire

I thought I wanted by with B

But A was 2 mixed up with B

Then c made me more confused

So "A" Turned off me and "B" feels

better. "C" is upset and lanely

and me, I think Love is complicated

ove is

Sust complicateo.

Love Is Just Complicated

you ask me 2 communicate
what it is I feel within
I search 4 words 2 assist
but I find none 2 help me begin
I guess love is just complicated

Love

 i_{S}

just

complicated.

I thought I knew my heart's desire
I thought I quenched my burning fire
I thought I wanted "A"
But "A" was 2 mixed up with "B"
Then "C" made me more confused
So "A" turned off me and "B" feels
better. "C" is upset and lonely
and me, I think Love is complicated.

Love

is

just

complicated.

ELIZABETH A different Love From B.S.A. I Pemember when u were Lost and your soul was in the wind IT was at this awkward moment that u and I became friends But Then your soul was found and u discovered to celibacy But with this u forgot about me and our Bond was a memory And now I C u felt it the Bond we made Before I pray 2 God it Stands and severes never more

Elizabeth A Different Love

From B.S.A.

I remember when u were LOST and your soul was in the wind. It was at this awkward moment that u and I became friends. But then your soul was found and u discovered celibacy. But with this u forgot about me and our bond was a memory. And now I c u felt it the bond we made before. I pray 2 God it stands and severs never more.

Expow my heart has lied before -but now it speaks with honesty
of an invisible bond of friendship
that: was formed in secrecy
Coming from me this may seem hard
but 2 GOD of swear its truth
we R friends for eternity
and Foreses of will always love u.

With all My Heart,

I AM HERE FOR U.U.R A True

FRIEND

I Know My Heart Has Lied Before

I know my heart has lied before but now it speaks with honesty of an invisible bond of friendship that was formed in secrecy Coming from me this may seem hard but 2 GOD I swear it's truth We R friends for eternity and Forever I will always love u

> With All My Heart, & "Spirit"

P.S. Just so u don't forget that I am here for u. U R a true friend.

FROM FIRST GHANCE, 4 Michelle From ZAPS FEB 1,1980

From First Glance I Know exactly what would be u and I have perfect Hearts Destines one Day 2 Be never the circumstances Don't even matter because my Harries and if u don't domit 2 this it is u who will be supposed if u don't domit 2 this it is u who will be supposed in the contract of the contract of

From First Glance

4 Michelle From Zap's Feb 1, 1990

From first glance I know exactly what would Be u and I have perfect hearts destined one day 2 Be The circumstances don't even matter because my heart never lies

And if u don't admit 2 this it is u who will be surprised

1 FOR APRÎL

1 Me your Name Alone is poetry
I Barely KNOW a AND Already
I cont explain this recting I real 4 APRIL
I WONT 2 C U From THE MOMENT
u Leave my side til the moment u return
My Nonchalant cold heart Finally has eyes on
4 April
So Now I risk it all
Just 4 The feeling of Joy a Bring me
I accept the ridicule
in exchange for the words a share with me
All OF THIS & NUCH MORE I WILL DO.

1 for April

2 me your name alone is poetry I barely know u and already I can't explain this feeling I feel

4 APRIL

I want 2 c u from the moment u leave my side till the moment u return My nonchalant cold heart finally has eyes only 4 APRII.

So now I risk it all
Just 4 the feeling of joy u bring me
I accept the ridicule
in exchange for the words u share with me
All of this & much more I will do
4 APRIL

Wife 4 Life Desicated 2 April

I Hope a heard me when I asked a that night 2 be my wife not for this year of next.

But mine for all your life 2 Accept me when I sin and understand me when I fail NOT 2 Mention Standing the rain which comes down as hard as hail I am not the Best of men my faults could scare the night.

But my Heart is always pure 2 my Wike I life.

Wife 4 Life

Dedicated 2 April

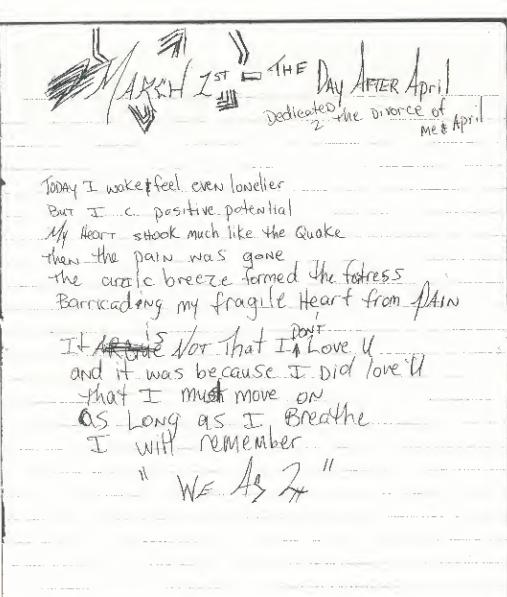
I hope u heard me when I asked
u that night 2 be my wife
Not for this year or next
But mine for all your life
2 accept me when I sin
and understand me when I fail
Not 2 mention standing the rain
which comes down as hard as hail
I am not the best of men
My faults could scare the night
But my heart is always pure 2 my wife 4 life

4 me & April My Tears they fall w/passion Like Tears conceived from JARS Full of Brightness & energy Seen only From afair Touight these trans are full of pain But also I confeel from My Heart Because the stigma is revealed unfaithful and unforgiven I cannot be let this Be I MUST Be Pure 2 only Her for ebernity

Tears from a Star

4 Me & April

My tears they fall with passion
Like tears conceived from stars
Full of brightness & energy
Seen only from afar
Tonight these tears are
full of pain but also I can feel
relief from my heart
Because the stigma is revealed
unfaithful and unforgiven
I cannot bear 2 let this be
So I must be pure
2 only her for eternity



March 1st—The Day After April Dedicated 2 the Divorce of Me & April

Today I wake and feel even lonelier
But I c positive potential
My heart shook much like the quake
Then the pain was gone
The arctic breeze formed the fortress
Barricading my fragile heart from Pain

It is not that I don't love u
and it was because I did love u
that I must move on
as long as I breathe
I will remember
"WE AS 2"

_
WHY MUST U BE UNFAITHFULL
- H. WOMEN
MEN!
U. SHOUDING LISTPIC Z YOUR SOLFISH V
IT DEESNS PERLLY, HAVE A BIRLY
Bersides Likeping W. Alive
ITS existence is in vain
How could I be so mean,
and say your heart has no thise?
Because MOTTAL MEN FALL IN LOVE AgaIN
as Fost as They change their face
May be coner But Think auhile about
The hearts That a have Broken
MOTCH That with the empty vow s
and broken promises with Spiken I
I Am NOT Saying temales & perfor
BECAUSE MON HE KNOW ITS NOT THE
But why must us Be unfaithful
If her heart is True 2 4
-4. 1 8.

Shak wie

3

Why Must U Be Unfaithful

4 Women

MEN!

u shouldn't listen 2 your selfish heart It doesn't really have a brain Besides keeping u alive Its existence is in vain "How could I be so mean. and say your heart has no place?" Because mortal men fall in love again as fast as they change their face I may be cruel, but think awhile about The hearts that u have broken Match that with the empty vows and broken promises u've spoken I am not saying females R perfect Because men we know it's not true But why must u be unfaithful If her heart is true 2 u!!!!

THE POWER OF A SMILE 4 Renee

THE power of a gun can kill

and the power of Fire can Burn

The power of wind can chill

and the power of the mind can learn

The power of anger can roge

inside until It tears a apart

But the Power of a Smile

especially yours can heal a Grozen Heart

The Power of a Smile

4 Reneé

The power of a gun can kill
and the power of Fire can Burn
The power of wind can chill
and the power of the mind can learn
The power of anger can rage
inside until it tears u apart
But the Power of a Smile
especially yours can heal a frozen Heart

GENES: 5 (THE REBITTH OF MY HEALT) DEDICATED 2 Revoe Ross

FIRST THERE Was NOTHING NOT even the Foliat echo of a Song Loneliness was baily 4 me until u came along There was a gleam of STATS in your eyes I THOUGHT I'D Never feel this way again But a were the one 2 reach into my Heart AND FIND IN ME a FrIEND I could not ignore the magnetism That I felt when a were Near AND ANY Problems Plaguing My MIND would Suppenly Disappear was the reBirth of my Heart The Day u Became my Friend Because I knew From the Moment I Held u that I would FID love again

Genesis (The Rebirth of My Heart) Dedicated 2 Renee Ross

First there was nothing Not even the faint echo of a song Loneliness was daily 4 mc until u came along There was a gleam of stars in your eyes I thought I'd never feel this way again But u were the one 2 reach into my heart And find in me a Friend I could not ignore the magnetism that I felt when u were near And any problems plaguing my mind would suddenly disappear It was the rebirth of my heart The day ii became my friend Because I knew from the moment I held u that I would find love again

Love WITHIN A STORM 4 ELizaBeth

We made Love within a Storm
in the midst of passion and chaos
Somewhere, somehow our true Bond
of friendship was Lost

In the eye of the storm
The rain always falls harder
Those who prevail this Trauma
will the 2 Bring their love farther

But now the Storm Has Passed and the seas of our friendship is calm But as long as I live I will rememember the Love within the STORM

Love Within a Storm

4 Elizabeth

We made love within a storm in the midst of passion and chaos somewhere, somehow our true bond of friendship was lost

In the eye of the storm
The rain always falls harder
Those who prevail this trauma
will learn 2 bring their love farther

But now the storm has passed and the seas of our friendship R calm But as long as I live I will remember the love within the storm

WHAT CAN I OFFER HER?

ALL OF MY LIFE I Dreamed of meeting one with immense Beauty, and once I found her I would charm her and she'd Be Mine forever.

I Have found her and indeed she is all I wished for and more but she is ...

I wished for and more but she is ...

NOT charmed not intriqued. Then I ...

Think 2 myself "What Caw I offer her?"

The tears warm my eyes and blur my usion I stick 2 my stance of Bravado and give her the Same uninterested look she gave me. She was so beautiful But what can I offer her

What Can I Offer Her?

All of my life I dreamed of meeting one with immense beauty, and once I found her I would charm her and she'd be mine forever.

I have found her and indeed she is all I wished for and more but she is not charmed nor intrigued. Then I think 2 myself "What can I offer her?" The tears warm my eyes and blur my vision. I stick 2 my stance of bravado and give her the same uninterested look she gave me. She was so beautiful But what can I offer her.



UR THE omega of my Heart
THE foundation 4 my conception of Love
when I think of what a Black woman should be
it's u that I FIRST Think OF

u will never fully understand How Deeply my Heart Feels 4 U I worry that we'll grow apart and I'll end up losing u

U Bring me 2 climax without sex and u do it all with regal grace U R my Heart in Human Form O Friend I could never replace u R the omega of my Heart
The foundation 4 my conception of Love
when I think of what a Black woman should be
it's u that I First think of

u will never fully understand How Deeply my Ifcart Feels 4 u I worry that we'll grow apart and I'll end up losing u

u bring me 2 climax without sex and u do it all with regal grace u R my Heart in Human Form a Friend I could never replace

THE TEARS IN Cupids Eyes

the Day is chose 2 leave me it rained constantly outside In Truth I Swore The rain 2 be The Tears in Cupids eyes

MANUAL MORNING THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

The Tears in Cupid's Eyes

4 Jada

The day u chose 2 leave me it rained constantly outside In truth I swore the rain 2 be The tears in Cupid's eyes

CUPIDS SMILE I

I ran outside 2 feel the rain and I stayed outside awhile when the rain was done along came the Sun and this was Cupid's Smile!

Cupid's Smile II

I ran outside 2 feel the rain and I stayed outside awhile when the rain was done along came the sun and this was Cupid's Smile!

WHAT . SEE ?

WITH MY eyes closed I can c

We have a chance 2 Discover ecstacy

But the clouds of Doubt Have made u Blind

So u R afraid of the emotions that u may find

I know that u've Been Hurt Before

But this is no excuse u u 2 ignore

The seed that cupid planted, in Hopes that we would sow

This intent emotion Deserves 2 Breathe So why wont u let it grow

A neglected flower will wither and on its own it will such like

But with honesty, Passion, and Mutual respect we can Some Begind the lets

So please don't follow what u c follow the rythym within your heart

Believe in me though u cannot a what hes within the Dark

What I See!

With my eyes closed I can e
we have a chance 2 discover eestasy
but the clouds of doubt have made u blind
so u R afraid of the emotions that u may find
I know that u've been hurt before
but this is no excuse 4 u 2 ignore
the seed that cupid planted, in hopes that we would sow
This infant emotion deserves 2 breathe so why won't u
let it grow

A neglected flower will wither and on its own it will surely die

But with honesty, passion, and mutual respect we can soar beyond the sky

So please don't follow what u c follow the rhythm within your heart

Believe in me though a cannot c what lies within the Dark

IN THE MIDST OF DASSION (ADULTERY)

IN THE MIDST OF PASSION 2 FIGURES STAND emerged in esstasy joined hand & HAND words R unnecessary feelings R HEARD. THE BODY Takes control Deaf 2 words It is at this STAGE THAT I THINK of U In gratitude 4 this joy u have exposed me 2 EACH Day is Bright with you as the Dawn with the collapse of each night a strong bond is born IN the midst of passion I remember your kiss I Reminisse about your touch and Suddenly Miss The Scent u wear and the tone of your voice Only u gar be my choice IN the Midst of Dassion DOST IN CONSTANT LOSTASY!

In the Midst of Passion

(Adultery)

In the midst of passion 2 figures stand
emerged in ecstasy joined hand and hand
words R unnecessary feelings R heard
the body takes control deaf 2 words
It is at this stage that I think of u
in gratitude 4 this joy u have exposed me 2
Each Day is Bright with you as the Dawn
with the collapse of each night a strong bond is born
In the midst of passion I remember your kiss
I reminisce about your touch and suddenly miss
the scent u wear and the tone of your voice
Only u can be my choice
In the midst of passion

I c u & me Lost in constant eestasy!!

2 PEOPLE WITH 1 WISH

THERE WERE 2 people with one wish.

2 Live a Life filled with LOVE

2 GOD THEY WOULD PROY THAT 2 GETHER THEY'D STAY

UNDER THE STARS ABOVE

BUT SOMEONE ELSE MADE A WISH

AT THE SAME TIME ON THE SOME BrEATH

And a l'hough the WISH 4 love was granted

SO was this evil wish 4 Death

NOW I MAKE A WISH

3 Ealed WITH TEARS AND LAUGHTER

IT is My NISH THAT THESE 2 LOVES

REUNITED IN THE HEREOFTER

2 People with 1 Wish

There were 2 people with one wish
2 live a Life filled with Love
2 GOD they would pray that 2gether they'd stay
under the stars above
But someone else made a wish
at the same time on the same breath
And although the wish 4 love was granted
so was this evil wish 4 Death
Now I make a wish
sealed with tears and laughter
It is my wish that these 2 loves
R reunited in the hereafter

Hours Pass By I THINK OF U IN MY Arms AND What it would be like 2 Make LOV. I think of u raising my SEED AND WHAT THEY'D BE MADE OF I THINK OF HOW MONE I Was. Betore u came 2 Be I Think of the Joy I felt Plours Pass By and cupid cries until we meet again I'm proud 2 Be the HEAT U -

Hours Pass By

I think of u in my arms
and what it would be like 2 make love
I think of u raising my SEED
and what they'd be made of
I think of how alone I was
before u came 2 be
I think of the joy I felt
when u said u thought of me
I'm proud 2 be the heart u
choose 2 make a friend
Hours pass by and cupid cries
until we meet again



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JUST A BREATH OF FREEDOM

Just A BREATH OF FreeDOM 4 Nelson Mandela

Itelo captive 4 your politics they wanted 2 Break your Soul they ordered the externivation of all minos they couldn't control 4 u the fate was Far worse Than Just a Brutal homicide They eaged u like an arimal and watched u slowly die inside As a Breath your first air of freedom on the day a become a free man Raise your Regal Brow in Pride u now you R in Goos Hands The life of many were given so that the day would one day come. That the devils in Power at Pretoria would pay for the evil crimes they've done

Just a Breath of Freedom

4 Nelson Mandela

Held captive 4 your politics They wanted 2 break your soul They ordered the extermination of all minds they couldn't control 4 ii the fate was far worse than just a brutal homicide They eaged u like an animal and watched u slowly die inside As a Breathe your first air of freedom on the day u become a free man Raise your Regal Brow in Pride 4 now you R in God's Hands The life of many were given so that the day would one day come That the devils in Power at Pretoria would pay for the evil crimes they've done

FOR MAS HOWKINS In Memory of Yusef Hawkins THIS poem is Adressed 2 Mrs Hawkins who lost her son 2 a racist society I'm NOT OUT 2 offend the Dositive souls ONLY The racist Dogs who Lled 2 me An American Culture plague with Nights Like the wight Yusef was Killed if it were Keversed at would be the work of a savage but this white killer was just willed But Mrs Hawkins As Sure AS I'm a Panther By with the Blood of Malcolm in my views America will never rest if Yusef Dies in VAIN

For Mrs. Hawkins

In Memory of Yusef Hawkins

This poem is addressed 2 Mrs. Hawkins who lost her son 2 a racist society
I'm not out 2 offend the positive souls only the racist dogs who lied 2 me
An American culture plagued with nights like the night Yusef was killed if it were reversed it would be the work of a savage but this white killer was just strong-willed But Mrs. Hawkins as sure as I'm a Panther with the blood of Malcolm in my veins
America will never rest if Yusef dies in vain!

THE SUN AND THE MOON

YOUR WAYS R Similar 2 THE rays OF THE SUM
WARM 2 MANY BUT 2 STRONG 4 Some
THE MORE U. R NEEDED THE Brighter U. Shine
WATCHED 4 2 LONG AND YOUR Brilliance will Blind
The WES OF MORTAL MEN WHO THREATEN U WITH DOOM
They regret 2 C U SET BUT it is time 4 The MOON



The Sun and the Moon

Your ways R similar 2 the rays of the sun
Warm 2 many but 2 strong 4 some
The more u R needed the brighter u shine
Watched 4 2 long and your brilliance will blind
The eyes of mortal men who threaten u with doom
They regret 2 c u set but it is time 4 the moon

"FALLEN STAR" Huer P. Newton THEY COULD HEVER UNDERSTAND What u set out 2 do instead they chose 2 ridicule u when a got weak They loved the Sight of your dimning and Aickering startight, How could they understand what was so intricate 2 Be loved by so many, so intimate they wanted 2 c your lifeless corpse This way a could not after the course of ignorance that they have Set 2 make my people forget what they have done for much 2 long. 2 Just forget and carry on who up I had Doved up forever percays of who up And NOW I MOULD OUT fallen Star

"Fallen Star"

4 Huey P. Newton

They could never understand what u set out 2 do instead they chose 2. ridicule u when u got weak They loved the sight of your dimming and flickering starlight How could they understand what was so intricate 2 be loved by so many, so intimate they wanted 2 c your lifeless corpse This way u could not alter the course of ignorance that they have set 2 make my people forget what they have done for much 2 long 2 just forget and carry on I had loved u forever because of who u R And now I mourn our fallen star

Government Assistance My Soul If would be like a panther asking a panther hunter asking a panther hunter asking a panther hunter asking a panther hunter High School Dropouts R Not Dumb All unemployed aren't lazy and there R many Days T hunger But I would go hungry and homeless Before the American Governmentgets my Sul

Government Assistance or My Soul

It would be like a panther
asking a panther hunter
4 some meat, all
High school dropouts R not DUMB
All unemployed aren't lazy
and there R many days I hunger
But I would go hungry and homeless
Before the American Government gets my soul

FAMILY TrEE 4 MOTHER

Because we ALL Spring
From Different Trees
Does Not mean
We are not created Equally

Is the True Beauty in the Tree or in the vast forest in which it branks THE Tree must Fight 2 states Armong the Evils of the weeps

That grows against all odds it Blossoms in Darkness and Pods.

and gives Birth 2 promising Pods.

I was the tree was growfrom weeks and wasn't meant 2 BC
Ashamed I'M NOT in fact I am Proud of my Thriving Family Tree

Family Tree

4 Mother

Because we all spring from different trees does not mean we are not created equally

Is the true beauty in the tree or in the vast forest in which it breathes the tree must fight 2 breed among the evils of the weeds

I find greatness in the tree that grows against all odds it blossoms in darkness and gives birth 2 promising pods.

I was the tree who grew from weeds and wasn't meant 2 be ashamed I'm not in fact I am proud of my thriving family tree OR MY SOUL Dedicated 2 Mom 5
Dedicated 2 THE Rowers
The choice is no stranger 2 poverty
Your Soul or Grovernment Assistance
I'm 18 in a Country with No Path
I A young unaddicted Black youth with a Dram
Instead I am giving the Ultimatum;

Or My Soul

Dedicated 2 Moms Dedicated 2 the Powers That B

The choice is no stranger 2 poverty
your soul or Government Assistance
I'm 18 in a country with no path
4 a young unaddicted Black youth with a Dream
Instead I am giving the Ultimatum.

WHEN URE HERO FALLS I my Hero (my Mother)

when your hero talls from grace all fairy tales R uncovered myths exposed and pain Mognified The greatest pain Discovered U Tought me 2 Be strong But I'm confused 2 C u so Weak u saro Never 2 give up and it hurts 2 c u welcome defeat WHEN use Hero fells so Do the STARS and so does the perception of tomorrow without my Hero there is only me alone 2 deal with my Sorrow. your Heart ceases 2 work and your soul is not happy at all what R u expected 2 Do when are only Hero falls

When Ure Hero Falls

4 My Hero (My Mother)

when your hero falls from grace all fairy tales R uncovered myths exposed and pain magnified the greatest pain discovered u taught me 2 be strong but I'm confused 2 c u so weak u said never 2 give up and it hurts 2 c u welcome defeat. when ure Hero falls so do the stars and so does the perception of tomorrow without my Hero there is only me alone 2 deal with my sorrow. your Heart ceases 2 work and your soul is not happy at all what R u expected 2 do when ure only Hero falls

UNTITLED

Strength is overcome by weakness
Joy is overcome by Pain
The night is overcome by Brightness
and Love - it remains the same

5

Untitled

Strength is overcome by weakness
Joy is overcome by Pain
The night is overcome by Brightness
and Love—it remains the same

Depicates 2 CRACK
Before u came the Triangle Never Broke
we were Bonded and melded as one
But as the 2 pushes u away
The one got weak and embraced u

and now a religion as Aport

The worst feeling of helplessness
The greatest pain has rested in my heart
The vision of heaven fades
and the nightmare of loveliness has storted

My Hero has been defeated by you and now what can I do warch as a Destroy us and our love is finally Through

I know the worst is Here

I feel it in my HearT

U got into the circle ||||||||||||

Now you're tearing us apart

"U R Ripping Us Apart !!!"

Dedicated 2 Crack

Before u came the triangle never broke we were bonded and melded as one But as the 2 pushed u away The one got weak and embraced u and now u R ripping us apart

The worst feeling of helplessness

The greatest pain has rested in my heart

The vision of heaven fades

and the nightmare of loneliness has started

My Hero has been defeated by you and now what can I do watch as u destroy us and our love is finally through

I know the worst is here
I feel it in my Heart
u got into the circle
now you're tearing us apart !!!!!!!!!!!!

- 1	A River that Flows FOREVER
	MOTHER
As	Long as some Suffer
	The River Flows Forever
As a	Long As There is Poin
	The River Flows Forever
AS	strong as a smile can be
	The River will Flow Forever
And 1	as long as uz with me
י אאת.	We'll ride the River Together
-	Well fide the killer togethere
	B
4	

A River That Flows Forever

4 Mother

As long as some suffer
The River Flows Forever
As long as there is pain
The River Flows Forever
As strong as a smile can be
The River will Flow Forever
And as long as u R with me
we'll ride the River Together

CAN U C. THE PRIDE IN THE PANTHER

Can u c The pride in the pontha as He glows in splendor and grace Toppling obstacles placed in the way of the progression of his face

Can u c the pride in the Pantha as she nurtures her young all alone the seed must grow regardless.

of the fact that its planted in stone

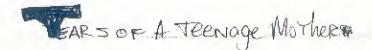
CAN'T U C the Pride in the ponthas
as they unifix as one
The flower blooms with brilliance
and outshines the rays of the Sun

Can U C the Pride in the Panther

Can u c the pride in the pantha as he glows in splendor and grace Toppling OBSTACLES placed in the way of the progression of his race

Can u c the pride in the Pantha as she nurtures her young all alone The seed must grow regardless of the fact that it's planted in stone

Can't u c the pride in the panthas as they unify as one The flower blooms with brilliance and outshines the rays of the sun



He's Brogging about his New Jordans
The Baby Just ran out of Milk
He's Buying gold every 2 weeks
The Baby Just ran out of Pampers
Les buying cloths for his New girl
the Baby Just ran out of Medicine
u ask for Money for the Baby
The Daddy Just ran out the Door

Tears of a Teenage Mother

He's bragging about his new Jordans
the Baby just ran out of milk
He's buying gold every 2 weeks
the Baby just ran out of Pampers
He's buying clothes for his new girl
& the Baby just ran out of medicine
u ask for money for the Baby
the Daddy just ran out the Door

WHERE THERE IS A WILL ORDO where there is a will There is A way 2 Search and discover a Better Day where a positive heart is all a nego 2 RISE BEYOND and Succeed where young minds grow and respect each other Based on their Deeds and not their color When Times R. DIM Say as I Say .. Where There is A will There is a way !"

"Where There Is a Will. . . . "

Where there is a will there is a way 2 search and discover a better day

Where a positive heart is all u need
2 Rise Beyond
and succeed

Where young minds grow and respect each other based on their Deeds and not their color

When times R dim say as I say "Where there is a will There is a way!"



Kathy Crawford

Liberty Needs Cilosses

LiBerry Needs Glasses

excuse me But laby liberry necos glasses AND So Does Mrs Justice By her SiDE Both The Broads & Blind AS Bats Stumbling THRU the System. Justice Bumbed into MUTULU AND Trippin' on Geronimo Pratt But stepped right over oliver AND his crooked partner Ronnie Justice stubbed her Big TOE ON Mandela And liberty was misquoted By the indians slavery was a learning PHASE.

Forgotten with out a verdict while Justice is on a rampage 4 endangered Surviving Black makes I mean Really it anyone really values 3 life They's take em Both 2 Pen aptical and get 2 pair of Glosses.

Liberty Needs Glasses

excuse me but Lady Liberty needs glasses And so does Mrs. Justice by her side Both the broads R blind as bats Stumbling thru the system Justice bumped into Mutulu and Trippin' on Geronimo Pratt But stepped right over Oliver And his crooked partner Ronnie Justice stubbed her Big Toe on Mandela And liberty was misquoted by the Indians slavery was a learning phase Forgotten without a verdict while Justice is on a rampage 4 endangered surviving Black males I mean really if anyone really valued life and cared about the masses They'd take 'em both 2 Pen Optical and get 2 pairs of glasses

How Can We Be Free

Sometimes I wonder about this esace Because we must be Blind as Hell 2 Think we live in equality WHILE Nelson Mandela rots in a Jail Cell WHERE the Shores of Howard Beach are Full of Afrikan Corpses And those - Do live 2 Be 18 BUMBUSH 2 Join the Armed Forces This so called Home of the Brave" why isn't anybody Backing us up When they & these crooked ass Ridnak cops constantly Jacking us up NOW I BET Some DUNK will say In Goist I can Tell by the way you smile at Me Then I remember George Lackson, Huey Newton and Oteronismo and 2 hell with Lody Liberty

How Can We Be Free

Sometimes I wonder about this race Because we must be blind as hell 2 think we live in equality while Nelson Mandela rots in a jail cell Where the shores of Howard Beach are full of Afrikan corpses And those that do live 2 be 18 Bumrush 2 join the Armed Forces This so called "Home of the Brave" why isn't anybody Backing us up! When they c these crooked ass Redneck cops constantly Jacking us up Now I bet some punk will say I'm racist I can tell by the way you smile at me then I remember George Jackson, Huey Newton and Geronimo 2 hell with Lady Liberty



I will give a Liberty, But First give me use spirit,

This I must confiscate because the evil Fear it.

I Too would be Afroid of Passion governed By Redon

An open mind 2 trying Times when corruption in

The Promise that they alaim

2 Be completely True

is hypocrisy at its finest

A trick 2 silence u

Never will I Tallieve a promise
From the Masters of the Art
Trickery Does Not Succeed
WITH Those WITH Honest Hearts

The Promise

"I will give a liberty, but first give me are spirit,
This I must confiscate because the evil fear it."
I too would be afraid of passion governed by reason
An open mind 2 trying times when corruption is in
season

The promise that they claim
2 be completely true
is hypocrisy at its finest
A trick 2 silence u
never will I believe a promise
from the masters of the Art
Trickery does not succeed
with those with Honest Hearts

AND 2 MORROW

TODAY is Filled with Anger Fueled with Hidden HATE Scared OF Being outlast Afrain of Common Fate TODAY IS BUILT ON Tragedies WHICH NO DIE WANTS 2 Face NIGHTMARES 2 HUMANITIES and Morally Disgraces. To wight is filled with rage Violence in the Air CHILDREN Bred with Ruthlessness Because NO ONE AT Home Cares Tonight I Lay my HOD DOWN But the pressure never stops GROWING OF MY SONITY CONTENT WHEN I AM Dropped BUT ZMORROW I G Change A chance 2 Ballo A New Built on spirit, intent of Heart and ideals Bosed on thuth AND TOMOFROW I WAKE WITH SECOND WIND AND 54RONG BECAUSE OF PriDe 2 KNOW I FOUGHT WITH ALL MY HOUT 2 KEEP MY

And 2morrow

Today is filled with anger Fucled with hidden hate Seared of being outcast Afraid of common fate Today is built on tragedies which no one wants 2 face Nightmares 2 humanities and morally disgraced Tonight is filled with rage Violence in the air. Children bred with ruthlessness. Because no one at home cares. Tonight I lay my head down But the pressure never stops gnawing at my sanity content when I am dropped But 2morrow I c change A chance 2 build anew Built on spirit, intent of heart and ideals based on truth And 2morrow I wake with second wind And strong because of pride 2 know I fought with all my heart 2 keep my dream alive

NO-MIN (DREam Doem) Backed into a corner alone and very confused Tired of subving away Mantad has been abused My choice 2 Be so blunt, But u must fight fire with flome I allowed myself 2 run once and was haunted by the shame if I must beit? T would but the Situation is a no win

No-Win

(Dream poem)

Backed into a corner
alone and very confused
Tired of running away
My manhood has been abused
Not my choice 2 be so blunt
But u must fight fire with flame
I allowed myself 2 run once
and was haunted by the shame
if I must kill I will and if I must do it again
I would but the situation is a no-win

THE UNANSWEIGHTE?

QUESTION:
WHEN WILL THERE BE PEACE ON
EARTH?
AMSWER: WHEN THE EARTH FALLS
2 PIECES!

The Unanswerable?

QUESTION:

WHEN WILL THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH?
ANSWER: WHEN THE EARTH FALLS 2 PIECES!!

NIGHTMARES

Dedicated 7 THOSE CUTIONS and Look 4 the meaning of Life the rich and powerful always prevail and the 1855 fortunate Strive through strite MISTAKES R MADE 2 Be 4 given We R 2 young 2 stress and Suffer The path of Durity and positivety
has always ridden rougher
Your intermediate Desire 2 Find perfection Has made your faults magnify curiousity can take Blame. It isn't a good feeling when y disober your heart the nightmares hount your Soul and your nerves Pripe

Nightmares

Dedicated 2 Those Curious

I pour my heart in2 this poem
and look 4 the meaning of Life
the rich and powerful always prevail
and the less fortunate strive through strife
MISTAKES R MADE 2 be 4given
we R 2 young 2 stress and suffer
The path of purity and positivity
has always ridden rougher
Your insatiable desire 2 find perfection
Has made your faults magnify
curiosity can take Blame
For the evil that makes u cry
It isn't a good feeling when u disobey your Heart
The nightmares haunt your Soul and your nerves R
ripped apart

SO SAY GOODBYE NOV 2

I'm going in 2 This not knowing what I'LL Find But I've Decided 2 Follow my Heart & ABANDON MY MIND and if There Be pain I know that at least I gave my all and it is Better 2 Have loved & lost thow 2 not love at all I've The Morning I may worke 2 smile or maybe 2 cry But First 2 Those OF My Past I must say goodbye.

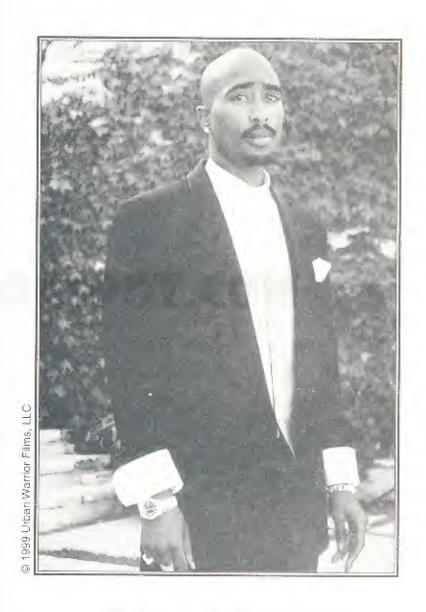
So I Say GOODBYE

Nov 20

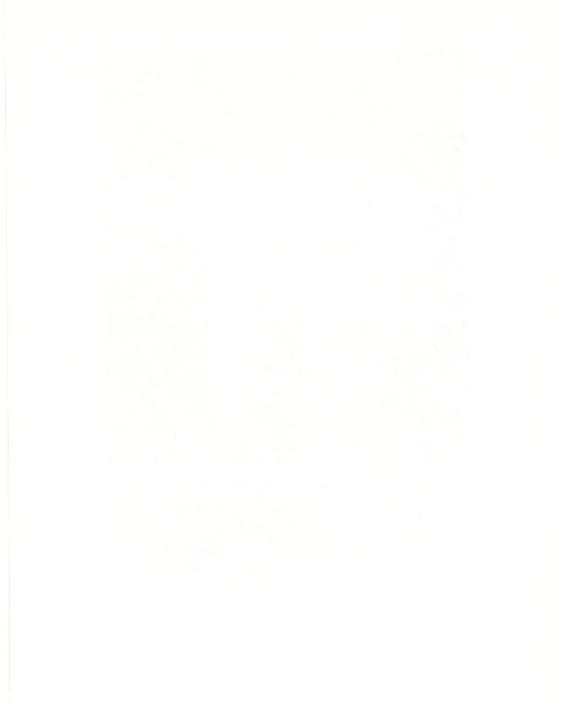
I'm going in 2 this not knowing what I'll find but I've decided 2 follow my heart and abandon my mind and if there be pain I know that at least I gave my all and it is better 2 have loved and lost than 2 not love at all In the morning I may wake 2 smile or maybe 2 cry but first 2 those of my past I must say goodbye

IN THE EVENT OF My Demise Dedicated 2 THOSE curious

In the event of my Demise
when my heart can best no more
I Hope I Die For A Principle
or A Belief that I had lived 4
I will die Before my Time
Be cause I feel the Shodow's Depth
so much I wanted 2 accomplish
Before I reached my Death
I have come 2 grips with the possibility
and wiped the fast tear from my eyes
I Loved All who were Positive
In the event of my Demise.



Tupac Amaru Shakur 1971-1996



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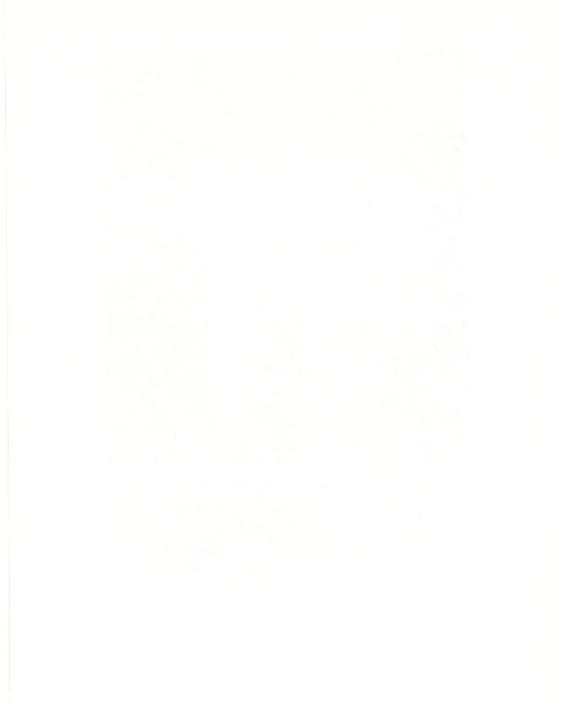
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IN THE EVENT OF My Demise. Deployer 2 Those curious

In the event of my Demise.

when my heart can both no more

I Hope I Die For A Principle

Or A Belief that I had lived 4

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